

SPORTS & RECREATION

JUNE 10, 2010

UFC comes to troops

Capt. Kevin Levesque

278th Armored Cavalry Regiment, Tennessee Army National Guard

CONTINGENCY OPERATING SITE MAREZ, Iraq – Ultimate Fighting Championship fighters visited Soldiers with Regimental Fires Squadron, 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment, 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) along with Soldiers from 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division while on their tour through Iraq. Fighters Heath Herring, Mike Swick and Kyle Kingsbury signed autographs, answered questions and conducted a mixed martial arts clinic with Soldiers on COS Marez.

They were also accompanied by actresses/spoke models Amber Nichole Miller and Andrea Tiede.

The Ultimate Fighting Championship is a promotion company based on mixed martial arts in the United States that hosts many events worldwide. The UFC's first competition was in Denver, Colo., in 1993. Drawing from different fighting techniques, such as boxing, jiu jitsu, and wrestling, the UFC style is considered by many to be the most effective martial art discipline when engaged in a real hand-to-hand fight. Originally, the sport held a "no rules" reputation and was not allowed in many states. However, after a controversial period, the UFC steadily experienced a transformation that required more rigorous rules and was later recognized and accepted by the State Athletic Commissions.

While Soldiers were impressed by the fighters, the fighters were impressed by the Soldiers. Swick noted the austerity of the region.

"This is my first tour here in Iraq ever and we went through Europe," he said. "It's one thing to be on an Air Force Base in Germany where it is like a hotel... then to go to Iraq and see that change and see what you guys go through day in and day out and see what your life is like ... that's why we're here. We definitely appreciate the ability to be able to come out here and support you guys."

Many of the techniques forged by UFC are now used by the Army and Marine Corps's hand-to hand



Capt. Kevin Levesque

Professional UFC fighter, Mike "Quick" Swick and Master Sgt. Pete Grey from HHC 130th Engineers Brigade work on combative techniques during a clinic taught by the UFC fighters during their recent visit to the troops in Iraq.

or "combatives" courses. Master Sergeant Pete Grey, a level III combatives instructor from Tampa, Fla., with HHC, 130th Engineers Brigade, got to learn a few techniques and spar with Swick.

"It's awesome! I am happy to have an opportunity to roll with someone like Mike Swick," he said. "It's like a dream day for us ... I just eat it up! I love it and Soldiers really appreciate it!"

Soldiers got the UFC fighters' autographs while Mike Swick got Soldiers' autographs when they all signed his hat. Texas native Heath "Texas Crazy Horse" Herring also commented on his visit.

"I've been to Afghanistan and been to Iraq twice, and you all are the most impressive thing I've seen," Herring said. "There were places I have gone to where guys have spent 17 months in country. I did not hear one complaint. I didn't hear one guy not determined to do what he needed to do...I am impressed...and that's why I keep coming out here."

Apparently, the Soldiers were just as motivated, as they stayed for hours to talk to the fighters, learn new techniques, and get a general insight into this increasingly popular contact sport that has an impact on their warrior training now and into the future.

Single Soldiers find outdoor fun at Holbrook

Randy Murray

Fort Stewart Public Affairs

Thanks to the Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers program, Fort Stewart's Single Soldiers were able to pick and enjoy their own outdoor fun at Holbrook Outdoor Recreation Area, June 4.

Nearly two dozen single Soldiers braved the rain in order to participate in the outdoor activity of their choice, including games of one-on-one basketball, canoeing, kayaking, paddle boating, skeet and paintball.

The day actually got off to a false start when, shortly after activities began, a heavy morning shower sent everyone running for shelter. No one left, however, and when the rains subsided, some Soldiers began playing one-on-one basketball and HORSE.

Others ventured out into Holbrook Pond and tried out their skills canoeing, kayaking or paddle boating.

Meanwhile, loud music blared from speakers on the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation sound stage, all of which helped these single Soldiers enjoy their day off.

The heat and humidity caused some to stay under shelter where they played cards and dominoes while waiting for the grill master to serve up hotdogs and hamburgers.

After lunch, a few Soldiers decided to test their hand-eye coordination with a round of skeet. Still others tried their hand at paintball.

"I was invited out here to help set up for the activities today," said Spc. Kyle Sparrow, BOSS representative for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 703rd Brigade Support Battalion.

"(Activities like this) help get Soldiers out of the barracks and give them a chance to meet people and have fun."

Rodeo stars round up at Speicher to support troops

Spc. Jessica Zullig

135th MPAD, 3rd ID Public Affairs

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE SPEICHER, Iraq – Members of The Wrangler National Patriot tour made a stop at Contingency Operating Base Speicher, Iraq, to thank servicemembers for their time and dedication, June 2.

"The number one reason is we want to thank our troops, military servicemembers, for the service they give to our country," said Jeff Chadwick, director of Wrangler National Patriot tour. "We want all our servicemembers to know how much we appreciate them."

The members of the tour held two meet and greet sessions; one at Task Force Marne Headquarters and the other at North Dining Facility to provide autographs, photo opportunities and to thank servicemembers for their service.

In order to better show appreciation and gratitude, Wrangler has put a program in place to raise money for fallen servicemembers' Families and wounded warriors by selling clothing called the National Patriot line.

"The Wrangler brand made a commitment to make this shirt and this program a fundraiser for our wounded and fallen servicemembers," said Chadwick. "Anytime we sell the logo on our shirts, caps, bandanas, a very large portion of the proceeds go into that fund to take care of our servicemembers who served our country."

Rodeos across the U.S. will hold National Patriot performances as a salute to the military. Audience members will be encouraged to purchase and wear National Patriot clothing during the event.

The National Patriot tour's goal is to support and recognize the sacrifices of the military.

"This trip has been so special for all of us," said Chadwick. "To be able to spend time with our servicemembers out on the small (forward operating bases); to put your boots in the sandbox with them; to see what they do for our country every day and the dedication they have; to be able to get to know them has been incredible."

For stars and performers who visit COB Speicher, it's always a special time and Soldiers feel the same.

"Having events brought here can help you get through the deployment," said Sgt. Josuan Rodriguez, a training noncommissioned officer for 3rd Signal Company, Division Special Troops Battalion, 3rd Infantry Division. "It lets you know that you are fighting for a good cause and people support you, and (it) relieves stress."



Spc. Jessica Zullig

Members of the Wrangler National Patriot tour sign autographs for Soldiers at Task force Marne Headquarters at Contingency Operating Base Speicher, Iraq, June 2. "The number one reason is we want to thank our troops, military servicemembers, for the service they give to our country," said Jeff Chadwick, director of Wrangler National Patriot tour. "We want all our servicemembers to know how much we appreciate them."

New Orleans ‘Saintsations’ visit troops in Iraq

Spc. Cassandra Monroe
135th MPAD, 3rd ID Public Affairs

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE SPEICHER, Iraq – A plate of stir-fry and burgers wasn't the only thing drawing servicemembers and civilians to the North Dining Facility at Contingency Operating Base Speicher, June 5.

The eager crowd lined up for a chance to meet and greet five New Orleans Saints cheerleaders. The cheerleaders, named the “Saintsations,” have toured many different military bases to provide entertainment for the U.S. military stationed overseas.

“We're here to entertain troops and bring smiles to faces and check out the scenery,” said Saintsations cheerleader Amanda Thompson. “The troops sacrifice a lot being over here, and I think that it's important for entertainers to come over and show support and bring a little taste of back home.”

The cheerleaders visited the South Dining Facility and took a tour around the base.

They ended their tour of COB Speicher at the North Dining Facility, just in time for dinner.

Servicemembers lined up to take photos with the fiery ladies and get signed autographs. Individuals also brought in their own paraphenelia, such as a New Orleans Saints football jersey and even a reflective belt.

After the meet and greet with the troops, the cheerleaders performed sideline routines, to the beat of crowd-pumping music.

“This is great,” said Capt. Ryan Frye, a logistician with 1st Infantry Division and native of Orlando, Fla. “Getting National Football League cheerleaders here gets us away from work and is a good stress



Spc. Cassandra Moore

Sergeant Emmaneul Cabahug, a chemical sergeant with 3rd Signal Company, Division Special Troops Battalion, 3rd Infantry Division, receives a signed flyer from New Orleans Saintsations cheerleaders during a meet and greet, June 5, at the North Dining Facility, Contingency Operating Base Speicher, Iraq.

reliever.”

Courtney Harper, a Saintsations cheerleader, agreed that having entertainers visit troops in war-zones helps keep morale up.

“Soldiers lose touch with what's in their own country, so you come over here to boost that morale up and to give them back that confidence and something to look forward to,” she said. “These performances are extra special to me because I know that I can walk into a room with thousands of

Soldiers and it puts a smile on every single one of their faces. I know how it affects your mood, and it just improves your day.”

“It gets the Soldiers away from the same run-of-the-mill operations,” said Capt. Gustavo Madrigal, an electronic warfare officer with 1st Engineer Battalion, 36th Engineer Brigade. “Just by them being here, it builds up morale and shows that they care.”

After making their mark for the troops, both on paper and in their hearts, the girls took the time to reflect on how the visits to the troops affect them and why they're worthwhile.

To Thompson, performing for the troops in a different country is an honor and makes her realize how small the world is.

“I ran into a Soldier in Kuwait that went to school with a couple of girls that are on our team back at home, and he knew them personally,” she said. “I've run into a lot of people from Louisiana, Alabama, so it's really interesting because you're half way around the world, and you get to talk to people who are from your hometown and get to share stories.”

For Harper, her trip to meet the troops on this side of the world hit much closer to home than expected.

“I have Family in the military, so it's good to give back to those who serve our country,” she said. “It just brings back memories of all the stories that were told to me when I was younger. [My Family Members] are so proud of what we do now over here, supporting you all.”

The cheerleaders previously stopped in Kuwait and are scheduled to visit different bases across Iraq over the next week.

Pass and permit announces Big Gobbler contest winners

Winners of the Pass and Permit Big Gobbler Contest, held from March 20 through May 15, were recently announced as follows:

Staff Sergeant David Crawford won the Soldier award of \$200 and framed art. His turkey's weight was 14 pounds and 8 ounces. Spur right was 1.3125 inches and spur left 1.1250 inches. Beard length was 10.0625 inches. Total scoring was 59 points.

Retired Command Sergeant Major Tony Cone won the first place award of \$100 and a Gerber Knife. His turkey's weight was 14 pounds and 6 ounces. Spur right was 1.6875 inches and Spur left 1.7500 inches. Beard length was 10.7500 inches. Total scoring was 70.25 points.

Gene McKenzie, a civilian, won the second place award of \$75. His turkey's weight was 16 pounds and 4 ounces. Spur right was 1.500 inches and spur left 1.3750 inches. Beard length was 10.1250 inches.

Total scoring was 65.25.

Retired Chief Warrant Officer Sammy Wilson won the third place award of \$50. His turkey's weight was 16 pounds and 15 ounces. Spur right was 1 inch and spur left 1.2500 inches. Beard length was 11.750 inches. Total scoring was 62.9375 points.

Michael Bell, a civilian, won the fourth place award of \$25. The turkey's weight was 18 pounds and 1 ounce. Spur right was 1.250 inches and spur left 1.250 inches. Beard length was 9.8750 inches. Total scoring was 62.8125 points

Sponsors were Critters & More Taxidermy, Bass Pro Shop and USA Discounters.

Courtesy Photo

Staff Sergeant David Crawford holds the framed art he won as part of his award in the Big Gobbler Contest conducted by the Pass & Permit office.



Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Ten Miler

June 5

Top 6 qualifiers in each category will represent the Stewart-Hunter Team at the Army Ten-Miler in Washington, D.C., Oct. 24.

Individual results

1.	TIMOTHY INSLEY	1:04:04	11.	RANDY PLUNLEY	1:14:37		135TH QM	
	260TH QM			135TH QM		23.	BRENNA LOPEZ	1:28:08
2.	WILLIAM MORGAN	1:04:38	12.	JASON CRITZER	1:16:02		549TH MP	
	226TH QM			135TH QM		24.	GLENDA FIGUEROA	1:30:46
3.	AUGUSTUS BOSTICK	1:06:56	13.	KAREEM SIMMONS	1:16:14		AD	
	3 STB			135TH QM		25.	IRMA WRIGHT	1:34:38
4.	CESAR GARCIA	1:09:13	14.	STEVEN BARR	1:16:33		FRG	
	MEDDAC			MEDDAC		26.	TRUDY BAVIIOU	1:35:48
5.	COURETTA JOHNSON	1:10:21	15.	MICHAEL SAWYERS	1:16:59		FRG	
	224 MI			2/7 IN		27.	JEREMAU ROBILLARD	1:39:20
6.	JOSE AGUILAR	1:10:42	16.	KATHEYN PEGUES	1:18:20		15TH ASOS	
	HQ CMD			3 -CABRD		28.	ANA HAWKINS	1:40:40
7.	AARON HERO	1:10:55	17.	CLENA ABUAN	1:18:22		FRG	
	18 WEATHER SQ			260TH QM		29.	SCOTT TROST	1:51:23
8.	THOMAS SPENCE	1:11:20	18.	(Not reported)	1:18:32		HHC 87TH CSSB	
	1/30 IN		19.	JESSE ATKINS	1:23:42	30.	KARIS STUART	1:51:24
9.	JILL FOWLER-HAKES	1:13:06	20.	LEIDY MATOS	1:24:38		FRG	
	MEDDAC			MEDDAC		31.	INGRID HUNT	1:52:56
10.	WALTER VELAZQUEZ	1:13:14	21.	SARA SEFEIK	1:26:25		FRG	
	HHD 260TH QM			MEDDAC		32.	CHRISTI MILTON	1:59:09
			22.	ANTHONY SAMS	1:27:54		FRG	

Stewart-Hunter Men's Open Team			Stewart-Hunter Men's Master Team			Stewart-Hunter Women's Open Team		
1.	TIMOTHY INSLEY		1.	JOSE AGUILAR		1.	COURETTA JOHNSON	
2.	WILLIAM MORGAN		2.	THOMAS SPENCE		2.	JILL FOWLER-HAKES	
3.	AGUSTUS BOSTICK		3.	WALTER VELAZQUEZ		3.	KATHEYN PEGUES	
4.	CESAR GARCIA		4.	STEVEN BARR		4.	CLENA ABUAN	
5.	RANDY PLUNLEY		5.	MICHAEL SAWYERS		5.	LEIDY MATOS	
6.	JASON CRITZER		6.	SCOTT TROST		6.	SARA SEFEIK	

SPORTS & RECREATION BRIEFS

Softball tournament slated at Fort Stewart

Marne Softball League teams are gearing up to compete in the Installation Softball Tournament, scheduled to be played June 21-24 at the Bennett Sports Complex, building 471. The men’s and women’s champions will be determined through a single-elimination play.

Spectators are being encouraged to support the tournament.

“We’re hoping there will be a lot of fan support for the tournament,” said Randy Walker, Intramural Sports Director at Fort Stewart. As of this week, 15 men’s teams and two women’s teams were registered to compete.

The champion teams and members of those teams will receive a trophy. Second-place teams will receive a team trophy only.

The tournament will begin at 6:30 p.m., June 21. The second round and semi-final rounds also will begin at 6:30 p.m., on June 22 and June 23 respectively.

The championship game will be played starting at 6:30 p.m. on June 24.

“This is a great opportunity to see some great baseball and great competition,” Walker said.

For more information, call 912-767-8238.

Yoga instructor needed

Looking for a certified Group Yoga Instructor to conduct Yoga classes at Newman Fitness Center, building 439 at Fort Stewart. If you are interested, please call DFMWR Contracting at 912-767-4748.

Texas Hold’Em Tourney at Club Stewart slated

Come on and show off your talent at the “Texas Hold ’Em” tournament to be held at Club Stewart Ballroom, building 405, from 6 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. on June 25-26. Or cheer on your favorites at the Vegas-style card tournament.

Open to Soldiers, adult Family Members, Retirees and all civilians over 18 years of age. Call 912-368-2212 for more information and registration.

Hinesville Hurricanes schedule

DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	TIME
June 12	East Georgia Rebels	Portal, Ga.	7 p.m.
June 19	Savannah Venom	Savannah	7 p.m.
June 26	Columbia Flying Raiders	Liberty Co. Rec.	7 p.m.
July 10	Middle Georgia Pitbulls	Liberty Co. Rec	7 p.m.
July 17	East Georgia Rebels	Liberty Co. Rec	7 p.m.
July 24	TBA	Liberty Co. Rec	7 p.m.
July 31	Middle Georgia Pitbulls	Middle Georgia	7 p.m.
August 7	Upstate Vikings (S.C.)	Liberty Co. Rec	7 p.m.
August 14	Tri-County Panthers	Screven, Ga.	7 p.m.